

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /065 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/SE:RRDELABARRE:RAH
APPROVED BY C:MNIMETZ
EUR/SE:NCLEDSKY
EUR:REBARBOUR

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128021

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PFOR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: US-TURKEY SECURITY RELATIONSHIP AND CYPRUS

1. AT HIS REQUEST TURKISH AMBASSADOR ESENBEL CALLED ON
COUNSELOR NIMETZ JUNE 1 TO: (A) CLARIFY CERTAIN POINTS
REGARDING CONTINUATION OF F-4 PROGRAM (SEE SEPTTEL);
(B) DISCUSS FINDLEY AMENDMENT TO FY 78 SECURITY ASSISTANCE
BILL WHICH WAS DEFEATED BY HOUSE LAST WEEK; AND (C) ASK
ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR EARLY HEARINGS ON THE US-TURKEY
DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENT (DCA).

2. IN RESPONSE TO ESENBEL'S QUESTION, NIMETZ NOTED
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DEPARTMENT HAD BEEN SURPRISED BY FINDLEY AMENDMENT WHICH
AIMED AT RECOMMITTING BILL TO COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION
OF AMENDMENT WHICH WOULD HAVE GIVEN THE PRESIDENT AUTHORITY
TO SUSPEND SECTION 620(X) TO ALLOW TURKEY TO MEET ITS NATO
OBLIGATIONS OR FOR OVERRIDING US NATIONAL INTERESTS
(STATE 121204). FINDLEY HAD INTRODUCED AMENDMENT, WH;CH
RECEIVED ONLY VERY BRIEF DEBATE, AS ESSENTIALLY PROCEDU;AL

PROPOSAL AFTER ALL OTHER WORK ON BILL HAD BEEN COMPLETED. NIMETZ SAID ADMINISTRATION HAD NOT REQUESTED SUCH BROAD AUTHORITY AND NEITHER SUPPORTED NOR OPPOSED FINDLEY AMENDMENT. NIMETZ CONCEDED THAT 150 VOTES FOR FINDLEY AMENDMENT WAS PERHAPS SIGN OF SUBSTANTIAL CONGRESSIONAL

SUPPORT FOR TURKEY BUT THAT ISSUE AS IT HAD BEEN POSED BY FINDLEY WAS NOT REALLY CLEAR-CUT. MOREOVER, NO ANTI-TURKEY STATEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE IN BRIEF HOUSE DISCUSSION ON FINDLEY PROPOSAL.

3. ESENBEL SAID HE WAS DISPOSED TO REGARD FINDLEY AMENDMENT VOTE AS POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT DESPITE ITS DEFEAT AND SUGGESTED THAT IF ADMINISTRATION HAD SUPPORTED IT, AMENDMENT WOULD HAVE PASSED. NIMETZ DISAGREED, AND EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT PROPOSAL COULD HAVE LED TO MISLEADING SIGNAL JUST PRIOR TO TURKISH ELECTIONS.

4. ESENBEL ASKED IF DEPARTMENT HAD ANY NEW INFORMATION REGARDING SCHEDULING OF HEARINGS ON DCA. NIMETZ SAID THAT HIRC EUROPE SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, LEE HAMILTON, HAD TOLD HIM SUBCOMMITTEE MIGHT HOLD SUCH HEARINGS BUT NO DECISION HAD BEEN MADE ON DATE.

5. NIMETZ SAID US HOPED THAT AFTER TURKISH ELECTIONS IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO ACHIEVE REAL PROGRESS TOWARD CYPRUS SETTLEMENT. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT TO TRY TO KEEP DOWN ACRIMONIOUS STATEMENTS AND CONCENTRATE ON KEY ISSUES SO THAT MEANINGFUL ROUND INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS

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COULD FOLLOW TURKISH ELECTIONS. NIMETZ CALLED ATTENTION TO FACT CELIK WOULD ATTEND UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON RENEWAL OF UNFICYP MANDATE AND WE UNDERSTOOD MIGHT RAISE "ECONOMIC WARFARE" ISSUE. NIMETZ EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SECURITY COUNCIL NOT BE USED TO STAGE CONFRONTATION BETWEEN GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS.

6. IN RESPONSE, ESENBEL COMPLAINED THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS WERE EXERTING ECONOMIC PRESSURE ON TURK CYPRIOTS AND CITED CASE OF DETAINED DANISH SHIP CAPTAIN. THIS PRESSURE, ESENBEL SAID, MAKES DENKTASH MORE NEGATIVE. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT TURKISH SIDE HAD TRADITIONALLY SOUGHT TO LIMIT DEBATE ON CYPRUS IN UN BODIES. NIMETZ SAID IT WAS NATURAL THAT GREEKS WERE DISPOSED TO USE THEIR ECONOMIC MUSCLE AND LEGITIMACY TO MAKE UP FOR LACK OF MILITARY LEVERAGE WHICH TURKS ENJOYED.

7. NIMETZ ALSO TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO CITE AS UNHELPFUL TURKISH EMBASSY INFORMATION OFFICE RELEASE OF MAY 12

REPEATING ANATOLIAN NEWS AGENCY ALLEGATIONS THAT MAKARIOS
HAD TOLD HIS LEGISLATURE IN FEBRUARY AFTER MEETING WITH
DENKTASH THAT GREEK TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS TO TURKS
COULD BE MADE MEANINGLESS IF GREEK CYPRIOTS OBTAINED
STRONG CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. RELEASE INDICATES, ON BASIS
ALLEGED MAKARIOS COMMENTS, OUTLOOK FOR PROGRESS ON CYPRUS
IS "BLEAK". ESENBEL RESPONDED THAT RELEASE WAS BASED ON

MESSAGE FROM ANKARA AND SAID THAT TURKS WERE CONVINCED
THAT INFORMATION CONTAINED IN RELEASE WAS SUBSTANTIALLY
TRUE. NIMETZ SAID SUCH RELEASE DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO
IMPROVED NEGOTIATING ATMOSPHERE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
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